

Amendment And Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116
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In The Claims:

Please replace the previously presented claim set with the following replacement claim set:

1. (Currently Amended) A vest comprising water-soluble nonwoven fabric material formed from water-soluble polyvinyl alcohol fibers, said vest being shaped and sized so as to fit about a torso of a person, and when fitted about the torso of a person, said vest having (i) a neck opening for a neck of the person and (ii) arm openings for arms of the person, wherein the vest is capable of being washed in an aqueous bath without negatively impacting the structural integrity of the vest.

2. (Original) The vest of Claim 1, wherein the vest is pre-washed.

3. (Currently Amended) The vest of Claim 1, wherein the vest is capable of being washed in an aqueous bath up to about 20 times without negatively impacting the structural integrity of the vest.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The vest of Claim 1, wherein the vest consists essentially of water-soluble material.

6. (Original) The vest of Claim 1, wherein the vest consists of water-soluble material.

7. (Original) The vest of Claim 1, wherein the vest comprises a closure system.

8. (Original) The vest of Claim 7, wherein the closure system comprises one or more zippers, drawstrings, snaps, buttons, adhesives, hoop and loop materials, or a combination thereof.

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9. (Original) The vest of Claim 7, wherein the closure system comprises water-soluble material, water-dispersible material, or a combination thereof.

10. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 1, wherein the vest comprises two or more nonwoven fabric sheets joined to one another with one or more sheet fastening devices.

11. (Original) The vest of Claim 10, wherein the one or more sheet fastening devices comprise thread, adhesives, hoop and loop materials, or a combination thereof.

12. (Original) The vest of Claim 10, wherein the one or more sheet fastening devices comprises water-soluble material, water-dispersible material, or a combination thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 1, wherein the vest comprises at least one single ply nonwoven fabric, at least one double ply nonwoven fabric, at least one nonwoven fabric/film laminate, or a combination thereof.

14. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 10, wherein each nonwoven fabric sheet comprises spunlaced nonwoven fabric formed from polyvinyl alcohol fibers and having a basis weight of about 65 grams per square meter.

15. (Original) The vest of Claim 1, wherein the vest comprises one or more pockets.

16. (Original) The vest of Claim 15, wherein the vest is an ice vest and comprises up to about 6 pockets.

17. (Original) The ice vest of Claim 16, in combination with one or more pieces of ice or dry ice.

18. (Original) The vest of Claim 15, wherein the vest is a dosimetry vest and comprises about 5 pockets.

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19. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 1, wherein the vest comprises pre-shrunk nonwoven fabric having a fabric shrinkage of less than about 5% when exposed to a washing cycle.

20. (Original) The vest of Claim 1, wherein the vest comprises nonwoven fabric substantially free of lint and static.

21-32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 1, wherein the vest comprises at least about 70 parts by weight (pbw) of water-soluble material.

34. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 1, wherein the vest comprises at least about 90 parts by weight (pbw) of water-soluble material.

35. (Currently Amended) A vest comprising water-soluble nonwoven fabric material formed from water-soluble fibers, said vest being shaped and sized so as to fit about a torso of a person, and when fitted about the torso of a person, said vest having (i) a neck opening for a neck of the person and (ii) arm openings for arms of the person, wherein the vest is capable of being washed in an aqueous bath without negatively impacting the structural integrity of the vest.

36. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 35, wherein the water-soluble fibers comprise water-soluble polyvinyl alcohol fibers.

37. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 35, wherein each water-soluble nonwoven fabric material comprises spunlaced nonwoven fabric formed from polyvinyl alcohol fibers and having a basis weight of about 65 grams per square meter.

38. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 35, wherein the vest comprises at least about 70 parts by weight (pbw) of water-soluble material.

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39. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 35, wherein the vest comprises at least about 90 parts by weight (pbw) of water-soluble material.

40. (Currently Amended) A vest comprising water-soluble fabric material formed from water-soluble fibers, said vest being shaped and sized so as to fit about a torso of a person, and when fitted about the torso of a person, said vest having (i) a neck opening for a neck of the person and (ii) arm openings for arms of the person, wherein the vest is capable of being washed in an aqueous bath without negatively impacting the structural integrity of the vest.

41. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 40, wherein the water-soluble fabric material comprises a nonwoven fabric of water-soluble fibers.

42. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 41, wherein the water-soluble fibers comprise water-soluble polyvinyl alcohol fibers.

43. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 40, wherein each water-soluble fabric material comprises spunlaced nonwoven fabric formed from polyvinyl alcohol fibers and having a basis weight of about 65 grams per square meter.

44. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 40, wherein the vest comprises at least about 70 parts by weight (pbw) of water-soluble material.

45. (Previously Presented) The vest of Claim 40, wherein the vest comprises at least about 90 parts by weight (pbw) of water-soluble material.